



S. Fittell
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PATENT APPLICATION

#18/D

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takamitsu ASANUMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3748

Application No.: 09/904,875

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Filed: July 16, 2001

Docket No.: 110108

For: A DEVICE FOR PURIFYING THE EXHAUST GAS OF AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
APR 08 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In reply to the December 30, 2002 Office Action, and in accordance with the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7-8 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please replace claims 1-5 as follow:

sub. E1 > 1. (Twice Amended) A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine comprising:

C1 a particulate filter arranged in the exhaust system, which carries a catalyst for absorbing and reducing NO_x, said catalyst absorbing NO_x when the air-fuel ratio in the surrounding atmosphere thereof is lean and releasing the absorbed NO_x when said air-fuel ratio is stoichiometric or rich;